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CLASSIFICATION SECRET-CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT

TOPIC Oranienburg Airfield

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 23 April 1951

REFERENCES

one sketch on ditto

PAGES 2

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. A unit of 12 jet aircraft of a type which has not been previously seen in the Oranienburg (N 53/Z 67) area was observed at the field on 9 April 1951. Description of the plane as seen from a point about 8 km northeast of the field is as follows. It had two jet engines; single rudder assembly; retracted landing gear; wings fitted about in mid-fuselage when seen from below; dihedral elevator assembly, which when seen from below was swept-back; a very long and slim fuselage; and a nose fitted very far forward. The aircraft were flying northeast in line in formations of four at an altitude of about 800 to 1,000 meters. The visibility was clear and there were high cumulus clouds.
2. On 17 April, source estimated that he could see possibly 25 and at least 20 twin-engine jet aircraft at the airfield. The planes' fuselages were pointed at the nose and there was a red star on the rudder assembly. Numbers or other markings were not seen. Some of the planes were covered with dark green, tightly fitting tarpaulins, others were only partially covered with tarpaulins. Two twin-engine aircraft with double rudder assembly and one twin-engine plane with single-rudder assembly were also seen at the field. There was no flying, probably because of strong winds.
3. Photographs were taken of the airfield and aircraft between 2 and 4 p.m. on 17 April from the southeastern and northwestern edges of the field. The sun shone occasionally. *
4. On 18 April between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., jet aircraft of an undetermined type were seen continually over Velten (N 53/Z 66) coming from the direction of Oranienburg. The aircraft were semi-high-wing monoplanes with straight wings fitted between the first and second third of the fuselage and suspended under each wing was one jet engine which was larger than that of the MiG-15.

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Comment. These planes had a wing-span of about 25 meters, were about the same size as the B-25, had straight wings, dihedral and swept-back elevator assembly, one jet engine under each wing, a nose wheel, landing wheels under the engines and apparently a rear gunner's station in the tail of the fuselage. Also two tubes of an undetermined purpose, possibly take-off assists are located one on top of the other at the outside of the jet engines. It is not known whether the aircraft belong to a new unit or whether they are an additional group assigned to the bomber regiment stationed in Oranienburg. Since there are no indications of the arrival of new ground units it is believed that the planes are bombers. The present location of the PE-2s previously stationed in Oranienburg is not known. B-25s are stationed at the field. Aircraft of this type have also been seen at the Jueterbog-Altes Lager and Finsterwalde airfields. It is possible that these aircraft are employed for training pilots to use aircraft with a nose wheel. Therefore it is believed that jet bombers will also arrive at the fields of Finsterwalde and Jueterbog.

Annex :

Sketch on ditto

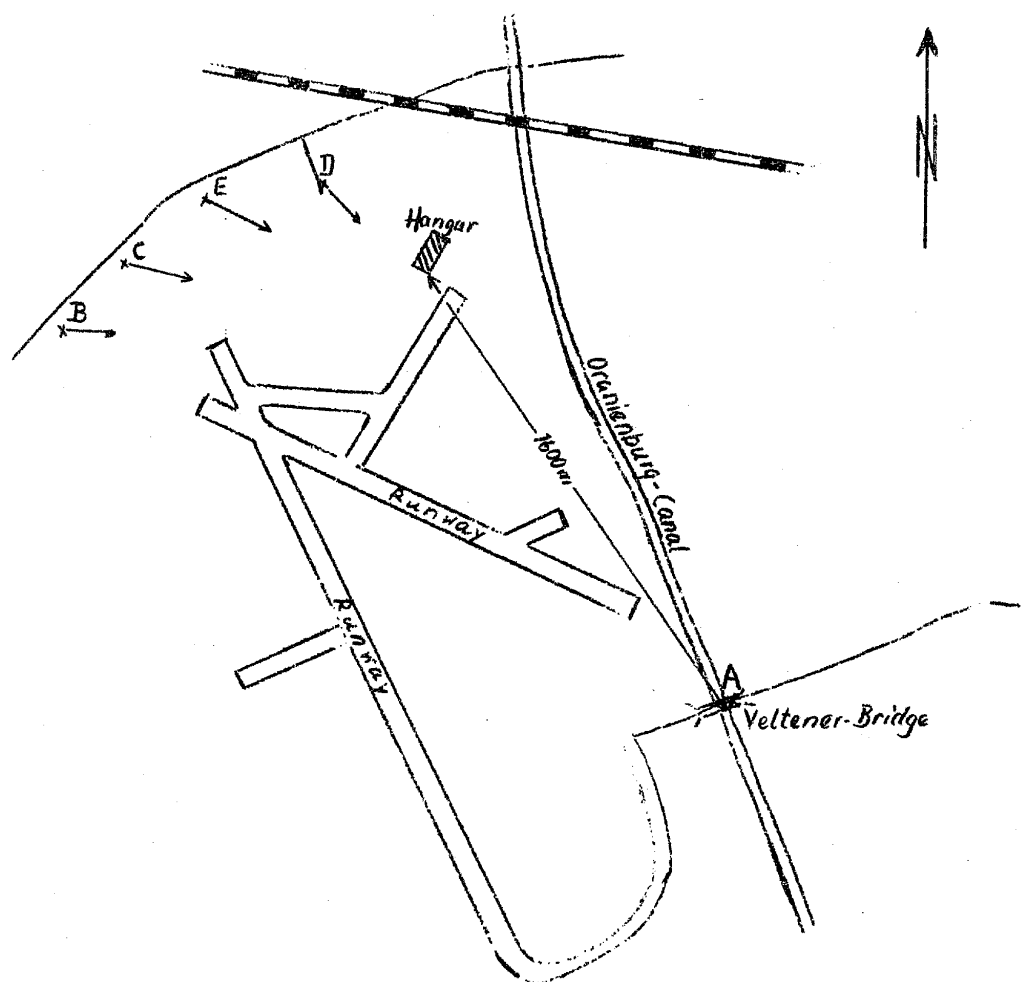
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Positions at Which Pictures of Twin-Engine Jet Aircraft
at Oranienburg Airfield Were Taken



Legend:

- A Pictures No 1 and 2
- B Picture No 3
- C Picture No 4 and 4A
- D Picture No 5
- E Picture No 6

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